



P/1903-20

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Alexander FURBACH et al.

Date: March 19, 2004

Serial No.: 10/030,463

Group Art Unit: 2828

Filed: April 24, 2002

Examiner: FLORES RUIZ, Delma R.

For: LASER DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 19, 2003, please take the following remarks into consideration.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of December 19, 2003, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 12-14, 16-19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the patent to Weingarten et al. in view of the patent to Fossey et al.

Claims 15 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Weingarten et al. in view of Fossey et al., and further in view of the patent to Rieger et al.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to the patent to Weingarten et al., it can be seen that this patent discloses a high-repetition rate passively mode-locked solid-state laser. This reference was addressed in some detail in the last filed Amendment and those comments apply equally here.